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any account to be interfered with in purely technical matters connected with his profession. Even if the clergyman be a really good musician, still he should remember that he is but an amateur after all; as such, it would be as bad taste in him to dictate to his organist in matters of strictly musical detail as it would be were the organist to dictate to his clergyman as to the doctrine of his sermons. The musical priest will do well to consult frequently, in a friendly and brotherly way, with the professional musician on technical musical points. All lovers of music should regard one another as brothers. From an artistic point of view; and thus the theological and musical faculties will co-operate in a friendly way in the good and holy work in which they are both enlisted, and the musical acquirements of the clergyman will be as great a recommendation in the eyes of the organist of his church as the theological orthodoxy of the musician would be in the eyes of his parish priest. But, on the other hand, of course, the clergyman must always hold his own where theological questions come into discussion. On such points no mere musician should presume to advise him; and where the questions at issue trench on the confines of the two faculties—*theology and music*—as, of course, is frequently the case, a little mutual concession and forbearance will generally settle all differences; if not, reference to some external arbiter suggests itself as the best solution of the difficulty. But if the organist will only remember that the parish priest must be *supreme* in the ordering of his services, while the clergyman on his part, recollects the rule, *cuique in sua arte credendum*, and abstains from dictating to the musician in purely technical questions of his art, in nine cases out of ten no such variances will arise at all—and they will be fewer in proportion as the two parties are drawn together by increased Church feeling and devotion on the part of the musician, and by improved musical knowledge and taste on the part of the divine.

From all which considerations an argument may be drawn in favour of an improved musical training of the clergy. Nor is such musical training so hard to procure now as it was formerly. The numberless choral societies and associations which have sprung up nearly everywhere present great facilities for self-improvement. Many manuals have been published for the use of choir-trainers and the organizers of choral classes. And the young clergyman can improve himself chorally by a diligent study and use of such works, either at home or (which is best) in company with other learners of the vocal art.

Of course Mr. Hullah's publications stand out in the first rank for such purposes. Then we have Mr. Frederick Helmore's very excellent little work on Church Choirs, which should be in the hands of every musical clergyman and every choirmaster.

Nor can I omit strongly to recommend Mr. Richard Mann's admirable "Manual of Singing," which deserves to be widely known and used.

But now it is time to bring these remarks to a close. In conclusion, I have only to entreat the indulgence of my hearers if, in my zeal, I have been betrayed into any expressions calculated to give pain or to excite opposition.

If I am mistaken, I am only too glad to have my mistakes pointed out; if I am right in my views, it will surely do no harm to have stated them publicly. One object alone has been before me: the improvement of the music of the English Church, to the glory of God and the edification of His people.

It is with sincere regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. W. H. Weiss, the well-known vocalist, which occurred on the 24th ult. after only a few days' illness. A loss so sudden and unexpected will be deeply felt not only by the public, but by the numerous professional friends with whom he has been for so many years associated.

THE MINISTERS AND CONGREGATION OF HOLY TRINITY, Church, New Barnet, have presented to their late Organist, Mr. F. Paterson, a Testimonial, consisting of Novello's "Select Organ Pieces" (3 vols) and Rink's "Organ School" handsomely bound and ornamented in morocco, together with a sum of money in a very elegant tortoise-shell portmanteau, elaborately inlaid and engraved. Mr. Paterson has zealously discharged the duties of Honorary Organist for nearly two years, and has made many friends by his gentlemanly and unassuming demeanour.

MR. W. REEVES' SOIRÉE MUSICALE was held at St. Paul's School-room, Southwark, on Thursday, the 24th ult. In the first part (chiefly taken from *Elijah*) "If with all your hearts," sung by Mr. Charlier; "O rest in the Lord," by Miss Hamlyn; the quartett, "Cast thy burden on the Lord," by Miss Shelton, Miss Hamlyn, Mr. Tunstall, and Mr. Hulford; and the duet and chorus, "O God, Thou hast overthrown," were very well rendered. The second part was miscellaneous, and contained several popular vocal pieces, many of which were encored. The concert was well attended, and was highly successful. Mr. W. Reeves conducted.

MR. ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, of Leeds, had the honor of appearing before Her Majesty the Queen and Court, at Balmoral Castle, by command, on the 19th ult., to perform upon one of Dawes's patent Melody Harmoniums. Her Majesty expressed great pleasure with the melody attachment, and the superior tone of the instrument, and she retained for her own use the harmonium which Mr. Ramsden performed upon.

A CONCERT was given at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, for the benefit of the widow and children of the late Mr. Henry Buckland, on the 21st ult., which was numerously attended, and will result, we trust, in materially aiding the benevolent object for which the performance was organized. Mr. Montem Smith

(who has been exceedingly active in promoting the undertaking) was unfortunately incapacitated by a severe cold from singing; and Madame Rudersdorff and Miss Mina Poole were also unable to appear; but Madlle. Drasdil, Miss Rose Hersee, Miss Julia Elton, Madlle. Angelina Salvi, Miss Palmer, Mesdames Thaddæus Wells, and Emmeline Cole, Messrs. W. H. Cummings, Frederick Walker, Fielding, Winn, and Lewis Thomas, made ample amends for the absentees by their excellent execution of a well chosen selection of vocal music. A word of praise must also be given to the Orpheus Glee Union, whose thoroughly artistic rendering of T. Cooke's glee "Strike the lyre," Klücken's "Soldier's farewell," and Otto's four-part song, "The Dance," (the last two encored) were amongst the prominent features of the evening. The instrumentalists were Miriam (the young and clever pianist), Mr. Frederick Chatterton (harp), Mr. Viotti Collins (violin), Mr. Richard Blagrove (concertina), Mons. Albert (Violoncello), and Mr. T. Harper (trumpet); Madlle. De Beauvoisin also performed Wallace's Pianoforte Fantasia, on "Robin Adair," with much effect. Signor Randegger accompanied on the pianoforte.

THE genuine success of Madame Parepa Rosa in America, appears likely, we fear, to keep her for some time longer from her native land. The New York press is unanimous in her praise, both on the operatic stage and in the concert-room; and though we can ill spare so accomplished an artist, it is gratifying to find that her talents have been so thoroughly appreciated. Should English opera (or at least Opera in English) ever obtain a firm footing in London, we may now know where to look for a *prima donna*.

A CORRESPONDENCE between Mr. R. S. Burton and the Town Hall Committee, at Leeds (published in the *Leeds Mercury*) is of too personal a nature to be discussed in a musical journal. The question as to whether the Penny Concerts given at the Town Hall affect concerts of a higher order, is the only one mentioned in the letter of Mr. Burton to the Mayor; but the communication from the Town Hall Committee, after answering this, proceeds to enter into a detailed statement of the manner in which the writer of the letter attempted to introduce an organist in the place of Dr. Spark, at some musical performances given in the Town Hall for the benefit of Mrs. Inkersall and family. We trust that a due amount of mutual forbearance may bring this little difference to an amicable issue; for bad as it is for the art when dissension arises amongst its professors, it is still worse when their grievances are boldly put forth in enduring type.

THE St. James's Glee Union gave a Concert at the Pembroke Hall, Hackney, on Thursday, the 10th ult., assisted by Misses Blanche Reeves and Augusta Holman. Of the part-songs allotted to the choir, we may especially allude to Hatton's "When evening's twilight," which was exquisitely rendered. Otto's "Dance" was also sung with much precision, and ought to have been more appreciated than it was by the audience.

MR. Frederick Walker, of St. Paul's, has been appointed Music master to the Choristers of the Cathedral, in the place of the late Mr. Henry Buckland.

Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

BEWDLEY.—The Bewdley and Wribbenhall Harmonic Society gave a Concert in the Guildhall, on Thursday evening, 28th September. The sacred portion of the programme was selected from the *Messiah*; and the secular portion consisted of miscellaneous glees, part-songs, &c. The principal singers were Miss Havergal, Miss Reeve, and Miss Hall, Mr. Everest and Mr. Muston. Mr. S. W. Stott conducted, Mr. Leach accompanied on the pianoforte, and Mr. Everest on the harmonium. W. Marshall, Esq., Mus. Doc., Oxon., also accompanied many of the airs, and his playing was much admired. The choruses were effectively rendered, more especially "For unto us a child is born," and the "Hallelujah." This is the second concert given by the Society, which, although young, shows unmistakable signs of rapid improvement.

BRIGHTON.—Mr. E. H. Thorne (Organist of Chichester Cathedral) gave a Pianoforte Recital on the 9th ult., at the Pavilion, when he displayed with much success his varied powers both of execution and expression, and was received by the audience most enthusiastically. Beethoven, Chopin, Thalberg, and Liszt were included in the programme; so that it may be imagined how thoroughly distinct in character were the works he had chosen. The concert was agreeably varied by the very excellent singing of Miss Ida Thorne, who gave ample evidence of pure voice and artistic style in several solos from the works of modern composers. The duties of accompanist were ably discharged by Mr. Knapp.

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND.—The Orpheus Glee Society gave its first concert on the 19th August, at the School of Arts, in the presence of Lady Bowen and suite; His Excellency the Governor being unavoidably prevented from attending. The Society was assisted by several lady amateurs, and Madame Mallalieu presided at the piano. The selection of glees included Klücken's "Young musicians" (encored) "The image of the rose," (Reichardt); "The miller's daughter" (Härtel); Vesper Hymn (Beethoven);

"Departure" (Mendelssohn) &c., and several attractive songs were also given. Madame Mallalieu was especially successful in Beethoven's Grand Pianoforte Sonata, Op. 26, and later in the evening in Thalberg's "Home, sweet home." Mr. Niemeitz was conductor; and with the exception of Madame Mallalieu, all the performers were amateurs. The concert was in aid of the funds of the Brisbane Ladies' Benevolent Society.

CASTLE BLANEY.—A Concert was given in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, the 26th September, under the patronage of Mrs. Hope, which was extremely well attended. The concert was under the direction of Mr. George E. Nixon. The several songs, choruses, and concerted pieces were admirably rendered, and gave the utmost satisfaction to the audience. Mr. Cox's performance on the organ, between the parts, was loudly applauded. The concert concluded with the National Anthem.

CHICHESTER.—A Concert in connexion with the Literary Society and Mechanics' Institute was given at the Assembly Rooms, on the 7th ult. The principal feature of the programme was Professor Bennett's *May Queen*. The overture was played as a pianoforte duet by Messrs. E. H. Thorne and Knapp, accompanied on the clarinet by Mr. Haydn Rogers. The part of the *May Queen* was well sung by Miss Ida Thorne, the other solos being given by Mrs. Elstone, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Fisher. Bishop's chorus, "Hail to the Chief," Weber's Polonaise in E, played by Mr. Thorne, and "I watch and wait for thee," sung by Miss Ida Thorne, were also deserving of special notice, each being given so well as to elicit an encore. Mendelssohn's pianoforte duet, "The Gipsy's March," played by Messrs. Thorne and Knapp, came too late in the evening to be appreciated as it deserved. We must not omit to remark the care and taste displayed by the amateur ladies and gentlemen of the Glee and Madrigal Union, who sang the various choruses, and whose assistance contributed materially to the success of the evening.

DERRY.—Herr Malmène has been lately striving to establish Popular Concerts in this town. The first concert took place on the 2nd ult., when Madame Thaddeus Wells and Mr. Thaddeus Wells, of London, were engaged, the former as vocalist, the latter as solo violinist. The second concert took place on the 18th ult., when Miss Emily Spiller, R.A.M., appeared as vocalist, and was received with the utmost favour by the audience. The local papers speak in the highest terms of both concerts, which were in every respect successful, except in a pecuniary point of view. A selection of glees were creditably sung at each concert by the Derry Philharmonic Association, under the conductorship of Herr Malmène.

DEVIZES.—The Festival of Parish Choirs which took place in St. John's Church, under the auspices of the Salisbury Diocesan Choral Association, was one of the most successful ever given here. The church, which was most tastefully decorated with flowers, was filled to overflowing; and the execution of the music throughout the service was, in the highest degree satisfactory. The Psalms went with very great precision, and the unison passages being everywhere carefully observed, produced a very fine effect. The 150th Psalm, presenting, from its antiphonal arrangement by half verses, a task by no means easy of accomplishment to a large number of singers, was nevertheless given with a readiness and distinctness eminently satisfactory. The Anthem for Harvest, by J. Barnby, a happy specimen of this well-known composer's talent as a writer of Church music, was exceedingly well sung, though we could have desired a little more carefulness on the part of the tenors on the Decani side, which would have saved them from being out of tune on the C sharp and B natural in the phrase "they laugh and sing." In Hymn 135, tune Nicea, before the Sermon, the first two lines were taken by the Decani side, the Cantoris responding to them in the third; and in the fourth line, all the choirs, uniting on the words "God in Three Persons," gave out this sublime and majestic doctrine of the Faith with an expression and a boldness of enunciation truly heart-stirring. Great credit is due to Messrs. Clarke and Romain (and to the former especially) for the energy and pains bestowed upon the several rehearsals; whilst to the clergy and organists of the different parishes every praise should be awarded for the zeal which they have displayed in the cause in the midst of the busy harvest season. The collection at the close of the service amounted to £11 15s 10d.

DEWSBURY.—The Second Annual Festival, in connection with the Deanery Choral Union, was held in Holy Innocents' Church, Thornhill Lees, on the 9th ult. The Union was formed for the purpose of promoting and improving Church Music and Congregational Singing, and to encourage a simple and uniform style of chanting and psalmody in the various parishes of the Deanery. The total number of choristers amounted to 197, and the service throughout was excellently performed. Mr. Wm. Dawson presided at the organ; and it should be mentioned that the singers were under the able direction of Mr. Walker, choirmaster of All Souls', Halifax. The collections amounted to about £30.

DRIFFIELD.—Mr. Jackson's Grand Evening Concert, which took place at the Assembly Rooms, on Thursday, the 10th ult., attracted a crowded and fashionable audience. Miss Edith Wynne was enthusiastically encored in "Softly sighs," and also in the duet with Mr. Perren, "O Maritana." Miss Newbound was encored in "How to ask and have," as was also Mr. Perren in "My pretty Jane," and Mr. David Lambert in Mendelssohn's "I'm a roamer," and the old English song, "The Holy Friar." The trio,

"This magic wove scarf," was artistically sung by Miss Wynne, Messrs. Perren and Lambert, and loudly applauded. Mr. Henry Blagrove gave two solos on the violin, "Introduction and variations" (Mayseder), and "La ci darem," (Blagrove), and was encored in both. Miss Kate Gordon was solo pianist. "God save the Queen," terminated the concert.

DUNDEE.—A very excellent Amateur Concert was given in the Kinnaird Hall, on the 2nd ult., the proceeds of which were devoted to the funds of the Convalescent Hospital. The programme contained a judicious selection of vocal and instrumental music, all of which was most satisfactorily rendered, the singing of Misses Robertson and Crampton being especially and most deservedly admired. Herr Ganz conducted the concert, and also played a pianoforte solo and a duet with the Rev. E. L. Pincott. We are happy to say that the performance realized the sum of £150.

EDINBURGH.—Much disappointment was experienced at the Saturday Evening Concerts on the 19th ult., by the non-appearance of Mr. Weiss (through indisposition) but his place was worthily supplied by Mr. Winn, who gave several songs with much effect. Mr. Frank Elmore was also received with the utmost favour, winning most enthusiastic applause for his songs, "Thou art so near," and "Bella Donna." The performance of the band of the 6th Royals was quite a feature in the concert; the selection from "Il Trovatore" especially, being given with an amount of expression rarely found in military bands.

GLASGOW.—The Members of the Bridgeton Choral Society, of Glasgow, gave their opening Concert in the Hall of the Fifth Lanarkshire Rifles, on Friday, the 11th ult. Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum* formed the first part, and was followed by selections from the works of Mozart, Rossini, Spohr, Crotch, &c. The whole was exceedingly well executed by both Chorus and Orchestra, under the able conductorship of Mr. H. McNabb. The solos were very tastefully sung by members of the Society. "Pro Peccatis," from Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and "Let the Bright Seraphim," from Handel's *Samson*, being especially well received by the audience. The entire performance reflected great credit on the ability of the Conductor, and the attention and industry of the members, who number upwards of one hundred. The Hall was well filled, by a highly respectable and thoroughly appreciative audience.

HOGSTHORPE.—The entertainment given here by the Vicar and the Church Choir appears to have been a decided success. A local paper speaks in the highest terms of the execution of the vocal music, and awards equal praise to the manner in which many of the pieces appear to have been aided by dramatic effects. After saying that the glees, "Strike the Lyre," and "The Fisherman" were sung in "regular concert style," the critic observes that the glee, "From Oberon in Fairy Land," caused "roars of laughter, the ghosts and hobgoblins introduced having a most ludicrous appearance." Afterwards a duet by "two eight days' clocks tickled the risible faculties of the audience;" and the part-song, "Harvest Home," with its maypole dance, excelled "anything yet witnessed in Hogsthorpe." The concert was under the direction of Mr. W. Whilpham.

KINGSTON.—The Misses Jarrett gave a very successful concert at the Griffin Hotel, on the 8th ult., which was extremely well attended. Miss A. Jarrett's violin performances were worthy of the hearty applause they received, her tone and execution being thoroughly satisfactory. Miss L. Jarrett was suffering from a sore throat, and was therefore prevented from doing all that was set down for her in the programme. The concert-givers were assisted by Messrs. T. Dyson, and De Lacy, who sang several solos, and some glees were also given, in which Messrs. Goddard, Lawrence, Curtis, and Day, took part. Mr. Paine (organist of Christchurch, Berrylands) presided most efficiently at the pianoforte.

LANCASTER.—The First Choral Festival of the Associated Choirs belonging to the Rural Deaneries of Lancaster, Garstang, and Tunstall, was held in the fine old Parish Church of St. Mary's, on the 25th September, and drew together as large a congregation, as perhaps, ever met at one time within the walls of this sacred edifice. The church was neatly decorated with evergreens and emblems of the harvest. The service, full choral, commenced at half-past eleven o'clock—the procession of about 18 clergymen and 70 choristers, all in surplices, leaving the vestry as the organ pealed forth the exquisite air from Haydn's Oratorio, the *Creation*, "With verdure clad." The chanting of the *Venite* and Psalms was exceedingly well done, the former to Humphries' chant, the latter to Russell in C, the two sides, Decani and Cantoris, answering each other with great precision. The *Te Deum* to Dr. Alcock's chant in A, and the *Benedictus* to Ouseley in C, were rendered with just appreciation of the words. The Anthem, "O taste, and see how gracious the Lord is," by Goss, was finely sung, the rich tone of the treble voices telling with beautiful effect. The Litany and the remainder of the prayers were gone through in a most impressive manner, at the close of which the Old Hundredth Psalm was sung, the greater part of the congregation joining with much heartiness. The responses to the Communion Service were the composition of Dr. Monk, Organist of York Minster; the whole choir singing in unison, with a separate accompaniment for the organ. The Nicene Creed was read in monotone by priest and choir, the organ playing a plaintive melody during the reading, which was singularly striking. Before the sermon, the hymn, "O worship the King all glorious above," was sung to the fine old

tune "Hanover," and in this, as in the former psalm, most of the congregation joined. The singing was extremely good throughout the service, and reflected the highest credit upon the talented Choirmaster, Mr. Arrowsmith. To Mr. Dean, also, the utmost praise should be awarded for the valuable assistance he has rendered since the formation of the Union.

LANDPORT, PORTSEA.—On Monday, the 7th ult., an appropriate and elegant testimonial, consisting of *Ouseley and Monk's Psalter* (large edition), splendidly bound in Turkey morocco, and *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, bound to match the Psalter, was presented by the members of the Choir of All Saints' Church, Landport, to their late Honorary Choirmaster, Carlton C. Michell, Esq., in appreciation of his untiring and successful efforts for their improvement.

LEEDS.—On Monday Evening, the 21st ult., the Harmonic Union gave a Concert in the large Hall of the Working Man's Institute, which was crowded most uncomfortably. The programme included a varied selection of part-songs, glees, duets, songs, &c., which were performed in an excellent manner by the choir, numbering about 60 voices. Among the best rendered of the glees were "Thy voice, oh harmony," "The last rose of summer," "Foresters sound the cheerful horn," and "Blow, blow, thou winter wind," the first of which was encored, and responded to (by desire) with "Awake, Æolian Lyre." Several songs were also successfully given, Miss Downes Clarke, Mr. Dodds, and Master Thompson being especially worthy of the enthusiastic applause with which they were received. We may congratulate Mr. Dodds on having brought his class such perfection in so short a time; and we have little doubt that the Harmonic Union will eventually take a high rank amongst the many choral societies in Yorkshire.

LEOMINSTER.—A most successful Harvest Festival was held in the Priory Church on the 9th ult. A procession of the clergy and choristers was formed in the south porch of the old church, and advanced into and up the Norman nave chanting the 84th Psalm. The service, which was choral, was intoned by the Rev. J. Hampton. The first lesson was read by the Rev. J. H. Bluck; the second by the Rev. George Arkwright; and the sermon, a most eloquent one, from Psalm lxxv., 9., was preached by Sir F. A. Gore Ouseley, Bart. The Canticles were sung to the fine service composed by Dr. S. Elvey, in continuation of Croft's morning service in A. The anthem was, "O praise the Lord," (Goss), and the hymns 223 and 224 from "Hymns Ancient and Modern." Mr. Bradley presided at the organ, which was played by him with his usual skill and taste. The choir was kindly assisted by members of the choirs of St. Michael's, Tenbury, and Christ Church, Oxford; and it is needless to state that the service was most beautifully and heartily rendered.

LIVERPOOL.—The seventh Subscription Concert of the Philharmonic Society took place on the 24th September, and was a very successful one; the first part being devoted to Mr. John Francis Barnett's Cantata, "The Ancient Mariner," first performed at the late Birmingham Festival. The solo performers were Miss Edith Wynne, Madame Patey-Whytock, Mr. W. H. Cummings and Mr. Patey. The Cantata was conducted by its composer, and was listened to throughout with marked enjoyment; several of the pieces being re-demanded. The performers were evidently, one and all, animated by an earnest desire to do justice to the intentions of the author. The second part of the concert was a very agreeable miscellaneous one, under the *bâton* of the Society's regular conductor, Mr. Benedict. The most remarkable pieces were the first performance of Mendelssohn's beautiful posthumous Overture in C (called the "Trumpet Overture") and the exquisite rendering, by Mr. Carrodus, of Spohr's "Dramatic Concerto" for the Violin. The concert concluded with the Overture to "Le Nozze di Figaro." —The Eighth Subscription Concert was given on the 22nd ult., and was especially distinguished by a very spirited performance of the finale to Mendelssohn's unfinished opera, *Loreley*, and by an extremely refined rendering of the scena, "O land, ordained for mourning," solo and treble chorus, from Gluck's *Iphigenia in Tauris*, the solo parts in each of these highly contrasted works being most characteristically interpreted by Madlle. Titiens. The other solo singers, Madame Demerit Lablache, and Mr. Santley, very admirably executed the music allotted to them. The principal instrumental work was Mozart's Sinfonia in D (Op. 87) which was delicately played. The choral members of the Society sang very well two four-part songs; and particularly distinguished themselves in the chorus from Handel's *Susanna*, "Righteous Heaven."

MANCHESTER.—On Saturday evening, the 5th ult., the singers of the Greek Church Choir gave a very successful Concert in the Pendleton New Institute. The principal vocalists were Messrs. Adam Cooke, Bradshaw, Openshaw, Hall, Standen, Yates, Davison, and Pearson, all of whom gave the utmost satisfaction to the audience, and were warmly applauded. The Greek National Anthem (harmonized by J. Yarwood) terminated the first part, and the concert concluded with the English National Anthem. The performance of the entire programme was highly successful, and the utmost praise is due to Mr. Yarwood, the conductor, and Mr. D. Ashton, pianist.

MILNSBRIDGE.—On Monday evening, the 14th ult., the Milnsbridge Choral Society gave a performance of sacred music for the benefit of the Mechanics' Institution, in the National School-room, to a tolerably good audience. Several portions of Handel's *Judas Maccabæus* were given, and the various solos, duets, choruses,

&c., were sung very efficiently.—Mr. J. Hirst was the leader, Mr. S. Dawson presided at the harmonium and Mr. H. Pearson conducted.—At the close of the performance, George Armitage, Esq., J. P., president of the Institution, thanked the members of the Choral Society, and those who had assisted them, for the kind and excellent manner in which they had given the music.

MYTHOLMROYD.—On Sunday, the 20th ult., two Sermons were preached on behalf of the choir of St. Michael's Church, Mytholmroyd, by the Rev. J. Crowther, Incumbent of Longnor, Staffordshire. The singing, on the whole, was satisfactory (especially the treble solos). The anthem was "Behold, how good and joyful." Bridgewater's Services were used.

NEWBURY.—The Parish Church of St. Nicholas, re-opened last month for public worship, is surrounded with venerable associations, to which no other building in the town can lay claim; for although the precise date of its construction appears involved in obscurity, there can be little doubt that it is at least 400 years old. It has now been completely restored; and amongst other interesting additions, the new organ, built by Messrs. Bevington, of Greek-street, Soho, London, is certainly entitled to honourable notice. It is a noble instrument, containing three rows of keys—Great, Choir, and Swell; two and a half octaves of pedals. The morning and evening services were choral at the re-opening; and the united collections amounted to £493. The choir, under the direction of Mr. James Godding (who ably presided at the new organ) was in the highest degree efficient.

NEWPORT PAGNELL.—The Dedication Services of the New Organ for St. Peter and Paul's Church (the noble gift of G. Cooch, Esq., and his sister, the late Miss Cooch) took place on the 19th ult. The Lord Bishop of Oxford, who was announced to preach on the occasion, was unfortunately prevented by indisposition, from attending; and his place was kindly supplied by the Rev. Archdeacon Bickersteth, of Buckingham, who preached a most eloquent sermon. The service was full choral. The Processional Hymn, 168, "Hymns Ancient and Modern," was sung whilst the clergy and choir walked up the middle aisle to their places in the chancel. The prayers were intoned by the Vicar, the Rev. Arthur L. C. Heigham. Tallis's service was used. The anthem, composed for the occasion, by Mr. E. W. Pringle, the organist and choir-master, was taken from the 68th Psalm, the solos being sustained by Mr. B. Wilford. At the conclusion of the sermon the collection in aid of the expense of fittings for the church was made, and amounted to £22 10s. The *Te Deum* was then sung, and prayer pronounced from the altar. The description of the organ (which accompanies the account furnished to us) proves beyond doubt that the instrument is of the highest class.

NORTHAMPTON.—A District Choral Festival was held in this town on Thursday, the 3rd ult., at St. Sepulchre's Church. A large number of the clergy and County families assembled on the occasion. Evensong was very well intoned by the Rev. E. C. Haines, and an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Lindsay, Vicar of Kettering. The choristers numbered 236, including those from a few adjacent villages. The processional hymn, and that before the sermon, were the most successful; but the chanting suffered from a want of unity, owing to the circumstance that no combined rehearsal had taken place, and from the ill-judged position of the choirs. The beautiful anthem by Vincent Novello, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem," deserved a better rendering than it received. In future, it is to be hoped, that this noble church (which can ordinarily boast of a very efficient choir), will also acquire a better organ, the present one having only a single manual, and being totally unfit to support or control a large body of voices.

OTLEY, YORKSHIRE.—The first meeting of the Otley Choral Union was held in the Parish Church on Wednesday, the 9th ult. At three o'clock, the choirs (numbering 120 singers) entered the Church, singing the 84th Psalm, new version, to the tune S. Stephen's. The Psalms and Canticles were sung to chants from *Monk's Anglican Chant Book*, the pointing being taken from *Ouseley and Monk's Psalter*. These went very well, notwithstanding the great disadvantage of the organ being at the west end of the church. The chant to the *Nunc Dimittis*, after being played over on the organ, was sung so well in tune without the instrument, that at the *Gloria* the organ was able to join in again. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. J. A. Seaton. Mr. Wm. Stables, of Kirkstall, trained the choirs and conducted at the service. Mr. Brown, the Organist of the Church, presided at the organ. The collection amounted to above £23.

OXFORD.—The first of a series of Musical Entertainments, with Readings, took place on Monday, the 14th ult., at the schoolroom, and was so successful that it was repeated on Thursday the 24th. The choir of St. Mary's, gave some good selections under the directorship of Mr. L. S. Palmer. Miss Palmer presided at the pianoforte. The Readers were the Rev. W. M. Pyne, Rev. A. B. Benan, W. Bourne, Esq., and J. G. C. Edgar, Esq.

RHYL (Diocese of St. ASAPH).—Friday, the 18th ult., being the Festival of St. Luke the Evangelist, was set apart as a day of Harvest Thanksgiving. At 11 a.m. a full choral service was held in St. Thomas' Church, which opened with the hymn "Come, ye thankful people, come." The service was intoned clearly and solemnly by the Rev. J. P. Morgan, B.A., and D. L. Jones, B.A. The whole of the musical part of the service had been organized by Mr. J. B. Vine, who presided at the Harmonium, and to whom much credit is due for the efficient manner in which he had

trained the choir for the occasion. We cannot refrain from mentioning the careful way in which the Versicles and Canticles were rendered, as well as the distinct manner in which the Psalms were chanted. The Offertory, amounting to £16 was devoted to the Building Fund of St. Thomas' Church. At 6.30 p.m. a Welsh service was held in Trinity Church, the preacher being the Rev. D. W. Thomas, M.A., Rector of St. Ann's, Bangor. The collections amounted to £2 10s.

SCARBOROUGH.—A grand Evening Concert was given in the Spa saloon, on Friday, the 11th ult., at which the following artists appeared, viz., Miss Edith Wynne (soprano); Miss M. Newbound, (contralto); Mr. George Porren (tenor); Mr. David Lambert (bass) Mr. Henry Blagrove (solo violinist); and Miss Kate Gordon (pianist). The concert was a great musical success, and several of the songs were redemanded.

SETTLE.—The Choral Society gave a miscellaneous Concert in the Music Hall, on Friday, the 4th ult., Miss Berry Greening and Mr. Archibald Ramsden being the principal vocalists, and Mr. Barnett leader of the band and accompanist. Miss Berry Greening was highly successful in several solos; and Mr. Ramsden gave two songs by John Park in excellent style, and also joined in a duet with Miss Greening, and in a trio with Miss Greening and Miss Ellis. The instrumental portion of the programme included the Overture to *La Prisonnière*, some movements from Haydn's Symphonies, Romberg's Overture in D, Op. 60, and a Sonata for pianoforte, violin, viola, and violoncello, by Mr. Barnett.

SOMERSHAM.—On the 26th September the new organ, built for the Parish Church of this pretty village, was opened with three special services. The instrument, built by Messrs. Flight and Son, of St. Martin's-lane, London, is remarkably fine, considering its size and price; and the inhabitants of Somersham cannot be too grateful to Dr. Pinnock's step-daughter, Miss Sutton, who by her "basket," and her "tattooing" (in which she was assisted by her sister and some of the young ladies of the parish) brought considerable gain to the organ fund. On the opening day Mr. Holloway, Organist of St. Ives, presided at the instrument; and after each service he and Mr. Flight performed several pieces from the works of Handel, Mendelssohn, Bach, and others.

SOVERBY, THIRSK.—A Concert was given in the Assembly Room, on the 3rd ult., as the conclusion of a Harvest Festival. The performers were ladies of Soverby Parish, with a few members of the Choir. Very great assistance was rendered by Mr. Hopkinson, the late Organist of Thirsk, and by Mr. Walton, the present Organist. A trio for ladies' voices, "Those Distant Chimes," by Glover, was greatly admired, as also a duet by the same composer, "Let us dance on the sands." Mr. Hopkinson, now Organist of Dewsbury, played "The Harmonious Blacksmith" with much precision and taste; and the concert was in every respect highly successful.

SYDNEY.—Popular Concerts for the Working Classes have been lately held on alternate Saturday evenings, at the Hall of Temperance, Pitt-street, which have been very successful. The vocalists were Miss Howe, and Messrs. J. E. Swinson, G. Pashley, J. W. and T. Pidgion, R. Tollis, and others. The singing of Miss Howe, Mr. Swinson, and Mr. Pashley, was especially good, and evidently gave the greatest satisfaction. Mr. W. Inglis (cornet), Mr. Dodge (concertina), and Mr. H. Inglis (violin), were also worthy of the applause bestowed upon them. Mr. T. W. Craven, Organist of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (and one of the best amateurs in Sydney) presided at the pianoforte; and the success of the performances was in a great measure due to the excellence of the accompaniments. The concerts were given by, and under the patronage of, the Sons of Temperance, many of the performers being members of the order.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—The Philharmonic Society commenced its practices for the ensuing season on Tuesday evening, September 24th. The music selected was Mozart's Twelfth Mass. At the close of the meeting, the Secretary of the Society, the Rev. M. A. Mathew (in the absence of the President) presented Mr. Arthur E. Dyer, on behalf of the members, with an elegant silver-mounted ivory *baton*, in token of their esteem and appreciation of his services as Conductor of the Society. We are glad to learn that this Society, which was only established in February last, is in a prosperous and flourishing condition.

WORCESTER.—The fine new organ, built by Mr. Nicholson for Holy Trinity Church, was opened on the 27th September, when the capabilities of the instrument were most successfully displayed by Dr. Stainer. The organ, we understand, was designed by Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Spark (the efficient Organist and Choirmaster of the Church), and the plan adopted by them has met with the approval of Dr. Stainer and several other organists. We regret that we have not space to insert the specification of this noble instrument; but we may say that in every respect it reflects the utmost credit upon the builders. The collections at the services, in aid of the organ fund, amounted to £50.

YARMOUTH.—A Concert has been lately given at the Town Hall, in aid of the funds of the Sailors' Home, and another equally deserving Institution. The pianoforte playing of the Misses Gottschalk (who volunteered their gratuitous services on the occasion) was the principal attraction of the concert; and we must also mention the very excellent singing of Miss Blanche Gottschalk, who

possesses a brilliant soprano voice of a light and pleasing quality. A very effective part-song "Wake thee, my dear," and an elegant ballad, "Love thee," both the composition of Miss Clara Gottschalk, were amongst the most effective vocal pieces of the evening; the latter being enthusiastically encored. The Rev. Dr. Scott, of Northampton, presided most ably at the pianoforte.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. John Orton to the Church of St. Philip the Evangelist, Camberwell.—Mr. Robert Parkes to St. Philip's, Clerkenwell.—Mr. John Hele, R.A.M., to Charles Parish Church, Plymouth.

DURING THE LAST MONTH,

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